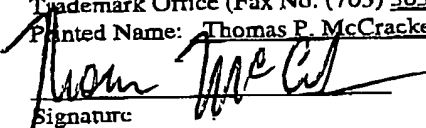


Atty Dkt No. 7010-0018  
(OPF 18.20)  
PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

O'CONNOR et al.

Serial No.: 09/922,218

Art Unit: 1615

Filing Date: 3 August 2001

Examiner: J. A. Venkat

Title: HYDROGEL PARTICLE FORMULATION

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to a Communication the above-referenced application, mailed 30 January 2003, and having a shortened one-month statutory period for response. This Response is being filed within the statutory period for response, and thus no extension of time to respond is required.